

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

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11

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01

USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 /024 W

----- 126358

R 101014Z JUL 75

FM AMEMBASSY MASERU

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5017

INFO AMEMBASSY GABORONE

AMEMBASSY MBABANE

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

C O N F I D E N T I A L MASERU 732

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, PGOV, LT

SUBJECT: CONTINUING RUMORS OF CHANGES IN LESOTHO GOVERNMENT

REF: A. MASERU 671; B. MASERU 565

1. ALTHOUGH ONLY ONE OF RUMORED CHANGES REPORTED REF B HAS ACTUALLY TAKEN PLACE, REPORTS PERSIST AND ARE WIDELY BELIEVED THAT A MAJOR RESHUFFLE OF THE GOL CABINET IS IMMINENT. NEW DATE FOR CHANGE IS RUMORED TO BE JULY 16 OR 19. IN ADDITION TO RUMORED CHANGES REPORTED REF B, FOLLOWING REPORTS NOW HAVE WIDE CURRENCY;

A. OPPOSITION PARTY LEADERS GERARD P. RAMOREBOLI (BASUTOLAND CONGRESS PARTY) AND EDWIN LEANYA (MAREMATLOU FREEDOM PARTY) WILL BE GIVEN UNSPECIFIED MINISTRIES.

B. MINISTER FOREIGN AFFAIRS KOTSOKOANE WILL BE MOVED TO NEW MINISTRY OF POSTS AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS.

C. MINISTER FINANCE SIKHONYANA MAY BE MOVED, EITHER TO FOREIGN AFFAIRS OR TO NEW YORK AS LESOTHO'S PERMREP.

D. DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF WORKS 'MASERIBANE WILL BE MOVED BACK TO AGRICULTURE.

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2. A SOURCE WHO HAS PROVIDED EMBASSY WITH RELIABLE INFORMATION IN PAST REPORTS THAT HE CAN CONFIRM THAT RAMOREBOLI AND LEANYA WILL BE BROUGHT INTO CABINET. WE HAVE NO CONFIRMATION OF OTHER RUMORS, BUT HIGH LEVEL GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS APPEAR CONVINCED THAT SUBSTANTIAL CHANGES ARE IN THE OFFING.  
HAUGHT

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** CABINET, PERSONNEL MOVEMENTS, POLITICAL SITUATION  
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**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 10 JUL 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** KelleyW0  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
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**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**Office:** ACTION AF  
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**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
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**Reference:** 75 MASERU 671, 75 MASERU 565  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** KelleyW0  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
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**Review Date:** 21 AUG 2003  
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**Review Transfer Date:**  
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**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** CONTINUING RUMORS OF CHANGES IN LESOTHO GOVERNMENT  
**TAGS:** PINT, PGOV, LT  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006